

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 3, 5, 11, 17-19, 21, and 36, 37 and 40 are amended, and claim 4 is canceled. Accordingly, claims 3, 5-14, 17-33, and 36-40 remain in this application. Claims 3, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 25, 36, 37, and 40 are independent claims.

The reiteration that claims 23-33 are allowed is noted with appreciation.

In this response, claim 3 has been amended via the inclusion of the subject matter of claim 4. Inasmuch as claim 4 has been indicated as containing allowable subject matter, it is submitted that this amendment overcomes the rejection of claim 3 under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Shepodd et al., and places it in prima facie condition for allowance. In that claims 13 and 14 depend from claim 3, these claims are seen as inheriting the allowability of the claim from which they depend and thus also assume allowable form.

Claims 17, 18, 21, 22, 36, 37 and 40 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Mao et al., and § 102(b) as being anticipated by Vos et al. In both of these rejections, it is specified that the anticipating element resides in the water host compound. It is submitted that the amendments which are proposed in this response are such that, by deleting the reference to the monomolecular type host compounds, multimolecular type host compounds, high-molecular type host compounds, and inorganic host compounds, from the claims in question, and limiting the claims directly to the exemplary compounds, that anticipation rejections of the above mentioned claims is overcome.

Applicant further acknowledges the indication that claims 4-12, 19-20 and 38-39 contain allowable subject matter. However, in light of the amendments to the independent claims 3, 17, 18, 21, 22, 36, 37 and 40, it is deemed unnecessary to further rewrite claims into independent form.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections based on the newly cited art are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Manabu Kanesaka".

Manabu Kanesaka
Registration No. 31,467

1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 310
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 519-9785